pennsylvania musician

magazine

Vol.40 #461 Mar 2022

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May 14th
Motors and Music Fest
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May 21st
The Church
Lebanon PA.

pennsylvania musician magazine

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Editor Ramblings By Josh Noll

March madness is here! Robins have been flying around the office this week. I'm not sure if they are lost or what, but it's still freezing out at the PA Musician office. Either way I'll take it 'cause even if they are a bit early, it gives me hope of a mild March. I think I might become a weather man. Seems I'm always talking about it.

On to music, I had been meaning to check out the new Lovedraft's location over on the Carlisle Pike and finally had the chance last month when 717 Entertainment hosted a night of heavy hitters. The night featured Anthrophobia, Spinebelt, Nail Bite, and Suicide Puppets. Shows start early now which is good, I like the fact that you can see a show and still be home before Letterman. The downside was we missed the beginning of Anthrophobia but still managed to catch the last couple songs. These guys have been around for a long time and were ripping through their set in true heavy metal fashion. Next up was Spinebelt, it was clear that a good portion of the crowd at that point were there for Spinebelt as the stage area quickly filled up when they started playing. They kept the crowd on their feet and dropped the hammer with their classic style of heavy metal/thrash infused mayhem.

Next was Nail Bite. As they were taking the stage you could literally hear the crowd start talking… Are these kids the next band? What type of music is this going to be? Who is that little girl? All the 'old heads' there, for the two previous bands, were a little confused by the "High schoolers" taking the stage. I told more than one to pick up last months issue and do some research and to hold on to their dentures 'cause Nail Bite was coming for them. When the band begun playing, and little Lonna Nelson started her heavy death metal growls and screams, it took a song or two for people to realize what was going on. By the second song everyone was back up at stage center and it was clear why they were booked on a night with the seasoned heavy hitters. These kids can rock! The drummer Austin Landis never missed a beat, dropped a stick, or even twitched his nose. He was like a drumming machine with every swing of the stick and drop of his foot, in time and on cue. I love watching a good drummer and this kid has it. Johnnie Bitting did a great job splitting the vocal duties with Lonna and producing some heavy guitar riffs and leads in the process. Caiden Nelson had the keyboards dialed and his head banging on point. Finished off with John Bitting (Johnnie's Dad) on bass to keep everything in sync. At one point Johnnie called out all the old heads and demanded a senior citizen mosh pit. The crowd delivered! Although I don't think it was as aggressive or jubilant as the mosh pits of my days but we all gave it our best shot and generally made a mess of things. Sorry Lovedraft's lol. At the end of the show the best comment I heard was, "Does that little girl have a button on her mic to sound like that?" Put them on your list and go check Nail Bite out.

Last up for the night was The Suicide Puppets. Many still in bewilderment from the previous band, were wondering what the Puppets had in store. "Fresh" off the tour life and short one member (get well Tatuicide) these guys hit one note and my ears almost blew as the crowd went nuts. I've known these guys forever and to see them take stage and hear the crowd roar to life was a special feeling. I looked around the room and it was packed. The local Puppet crew was out in force and the energy in Lovedrafts was intense. It was quickly discerned that the previous bands and crowd reactions had not only got the crowd pumped but the band as well. The whole set was heavy off the hook, loud and proud

Nail Bite at Lovedraft's

are the Suicide Puppets and the crowd was eating it up. The tour with Soulfly has really fine tuned the band and I feel we are just beginning to see where the Puppets are heading in the future.

Overall it was a great night of music and my hats off to all the bands, promoters, and the venue for putting on an epic night of music. Go check out Lovedraft's new Brewery and go support the hell out of them so we can have many more shows like this.

Spring is looking up for Doyle fans in the mid state as you can catch him at both Reverb on March 6th and a month away at HMAC on April 6th with Defiant for Support. Speaking of HMAC and April you can also take witness to Wednesday 13 on the 5th with local legends Suicide Puppets as direct support. So early April and HMAC is something you should keep in mind. Reverb has some other interesting shows coming up with the all mighty GWAR taking the stage on June 17th. Riff Raff on April 15th. Check out their ad on the back cover and see what Reverb is bringing into the area. There is sure to be a fav or two on the list.

Racehorse Tavern has its "every first Friday" all original music night once again on March 4th featuring Lucid Ruby, Wake Up John, Ethan Larsh Duo and Devix for a night of acoustic, chill Indie vibes. Racehorse has live music every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Including everything from solo acoustic acts, country, blues, to full heavy metal bands. Check out the schedule and make your plans now.

There's tons of action in the midstate as local music is on a comeback! If you're wondering how to get people to your shows, give us a call. Help support the only music specific, free to the public, resource for bands and venues with over 40 years of experience in the area doing so. Yes we need your precious ad dollars to continue doing what we love. As a team we can help take your career to the next level. Give me a call 717-636-4203 or email joshnoll@pamusician.net Take care music lovers!

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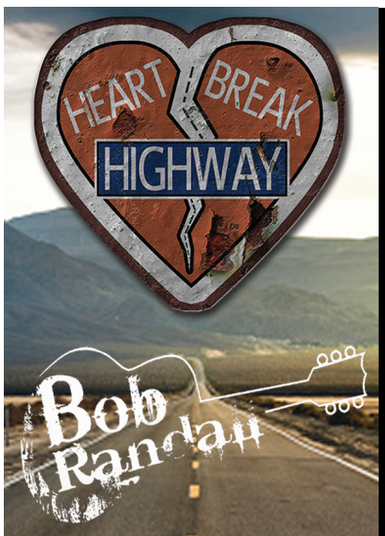

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Sat. 3/5- Zeichen des Pferdes / Bierhaus - Hanover 6-9pm
Fri. 3/11- Fratelli's - New Cumberland 7-10pm
Sat. 3/12 - OBSERVE THE 93rd - 8-11pm Shermans Creek Inn, Shermans Dale
Fri. 3/25- Moose Lodge - Carlisle 7-10pm
Sat. 3/26- Hotel Pillow - Elizabethville 8-10pm
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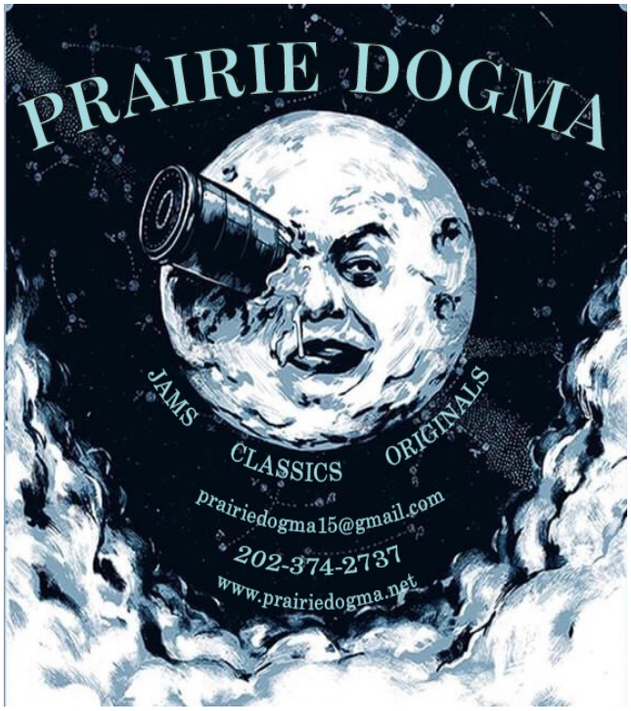

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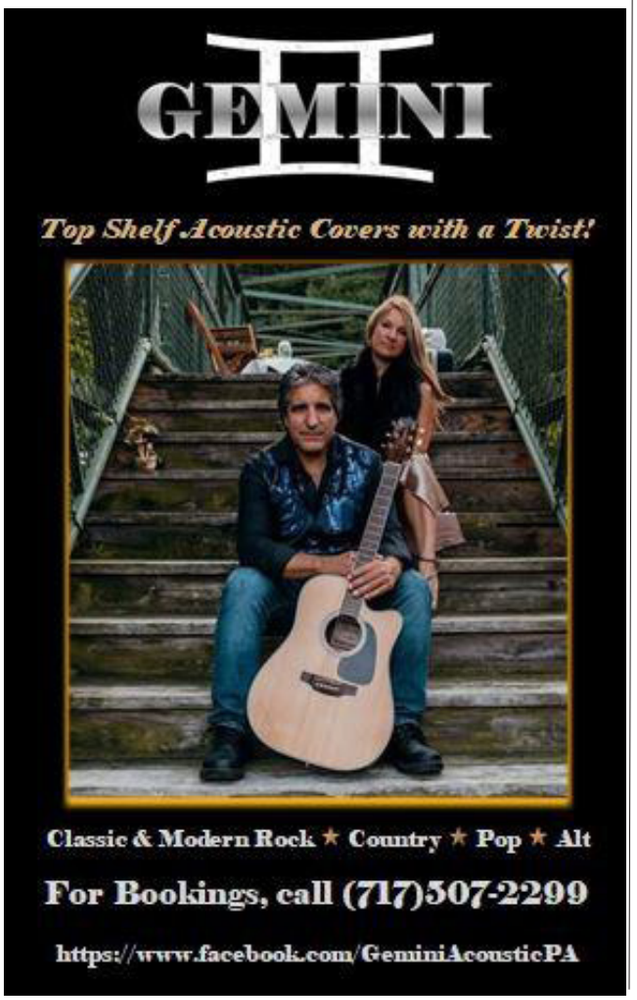
OUT 'N' ABOUT

By Rachel Rocks

Every time I get ready to type this article, I think, hmm.. I really didn't do much this month, this should be easy… Then, as I start to flip through my pictures I'm always like, oh yeah, I guess I did that, oh and that, and THAT!!! UGGGHHH get typing, stop procrastinating!!!!! 20 events in less than 28 days, no wonder people often say things to me, like girl, I don't know how you do it! Let me tell ya how easy it was this month, and I even slipped in a trip to the beach!

This month started with a trip down to the Lebanon County Expo Center for the Lebanon County Builders Association's 6th Annual Wine & Chill Night. Thanks to their sponsor, Patrick Brewer Carpentry, it was a free event, and you could chill, sip wine, shop at the vendors, and ultimately, listen to live music. They had two stages set up with tables and chairs in the middle, so we heard a set from DMC Duo and then it would switch over to Nate Myers and Pete Netznik. It was a great mix of music, and you could literally just sit, sip, n' chill. DMC Duo keep their schedule pretty jammed pack, with a great rotation of regular monthly gigs. They've been sneaking in some time to work on an original album! I can't wait to get my hands on a copy. They've been sneaking in a couple of originals into their sets, but I can't wait to hear the whole thing. Nate and Pete are always a blast to listen to. It's always awesome seeing how well they compliment each other and can really just jam the night away from one song to the next. Nate and Pete play every Tuesday at the Grotto Pub in Enola. Plus, they have shows all over the place every other night of the week, so check out their schedule at www.natemyers.com.

The next night we headed down to Gettysburg to go see Derek Henry at O'Rorke's. Gettysburg is such a cool little town with so many shops, restaurants and breweries, not to mention the Battlefields. Every time I finally make it down that way I always say the same thing, it's really not that far, I need to come down here more! O'Rorke's is a great little pub with delicious food! I'm so glad they also host live music, and we were able to check out this hidden treasure. Derek once again sang all of our favorites, and earned a few new fans in the process. It's always fun watching him play new places to new people, and watch them start singing along and making requests by the end of the night. Derek does a great job at connecting with his audience, and by the end of the night it always shows. Matt Bynum also stepped in during his break, as usual, and played us a few songs. It's awesome to hear Matt trying out new songs and expanding his repertoire of music. Soon he'll be playing on his own, and Derek will be playing during his breaks! Yes, I saw Derek 6 times this month. I thought I'd save some of you the pain of counting it.. I also had a blast watching him play at Flinchy's, Hook & Flask (during Carlisle's Ice Festival), Fratelli's where I always enjoy their pizza, Flinchy's twice! (Mmmm can anyone say Martini!) PJ Whelihan's, I'm so glad they started hosting music on Fridays! Every time it was a blast, and I wasn't usually there for his whole show, but I'd at least stop in and say hey! I gotta see my friends every chance I get!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Eternal Frequency at XL Live

After Derek's show we zoomed down the road to the McSherrystown Moose for the last set of Big Jack! It was great to get to finally see these guys! They had some fill-ins this night, but even though they never really played much together before, they didn't miss a beat and kept the dance floor rowdy, singing and rocking along! I'm not going to complain that one of their fill ins was Donnie B., who used to be the guitar player for Back in Black. It's been a few years since I saw Donnie, but it was great to see him again. I'm glad the McSherrystown Moose has such a great stage and dance floor and the support live music! It's always a fun night at the Moose!

Next up was Jason Carst at New Fangled. I'm so glad he's advertising his schedule again so I know when and where he's playing. New Fangled is practically in my backyard, so it's super easy to pop in there and listen to some music. I know there is so much music going on everywhere, and it is a bummer that I miss so much, but if you don't advertise, it's seriously hard to keep track and know when and where it's all happening! Jason plays

photo by Rachel Rocks

photo by Rachel Rocks

Defiant at XL Live

so much of my favorite music from the 80's 90's and today! It's always a great music and he's always up for requests. He has printed lists of his songs so people can get request ideas and hear a song that maybe they don't get to hear all the time. It's a win/win for everyone. The looping machine is always fun to watch him build and then play. It's like he's a one man band!

After stopping by to see Derek for a bit at Hook and Flask I zoomed back to Harrisburg to XL Live for Defiant. When I got there, Eternal Frequency was still on stage rockin' their originals to their fans. It's always awesome to see a crowd singing along to a band's original music. Music is amazing in so many ways, but I always think it's a whole different level at an original show where the band can connect so personally to their music, and when I see their fans truly appreciating every note, it is simply awesome.

The awesomeness continued when Defiant took the stage. They announced they were recording a live music video and the fans didn't disappoint. They showed up ready to rock! Defiant fans always show up wearing Merch which is awesome! They are truly dedicated and always looking forward to Defiant's next show. I can't believe how long it had been since I heard these guys, but it was great to finally hear them again. They have a few shows on the horizon, but one of the big ones is opening for Doyle at HMAC on April 6th! Get your tickets now, and get ready to rock!! Check out Defiant's schedule in this issue, and plan your next adventure out on the town.

This past month Erica Everest started hosting open mic nights every other Tuesday at the Copper Pub & Grill in Linglestown.

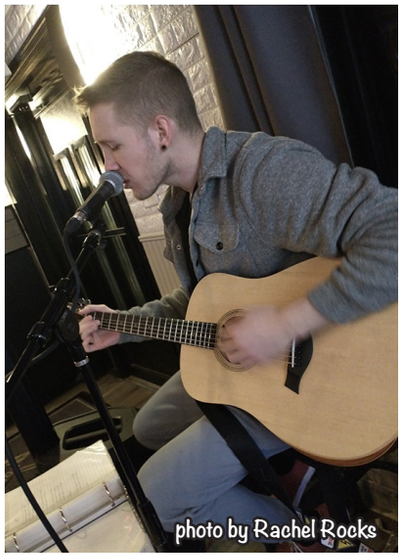
photo by Rachel Rocks

photo by Rachel Rocks

Vertigo Vultures at Shermans Creek Inn

Out & About contnued....

The first time there, Matt and I played together and we had a blast and had the bar singing along! The second time Matt was busy so I ventured to the microphone alone! And I lived, but was very thankful when Jason Carst who was co-hosting that night, jumped up on the stage and joined me, what a relief! We were playing Wagon Wheel, and then Jason broke into a medley of songs with the same exact chords. It always amazes me how if you just know a couple basic chords, how many songs you can play! I'm trying to build up my confidence, preparing to play our next show, May 7th from 4:00-5:30 at the Sip N' Dip at the Newport Fairgrounds. It is supporting the Millerstown Swimming Pool which was one of my favorite places to hang out when I was a youngin! The pool definitely needs our support to keep afloat! Matt and I are very excited for our next show! We hope you can join us.



Derek Henry at Flinchy's

On a Friday we zoomed up to Sherman's Creek Inn for Vertigo Vultures. I was so glad to see these guys show on another night I was available. They are so much fun and so entertaining. Their flock is growing as the word gets out about these guys. Their frontman Kyle is simply captivating with his energy and powerful vocals, but he's also backed by a flock of experienced musicians! The line on their website explains them perfectly: "Together the Vertigo Vultures signature tight performances will make your hands clap and toes tap while singing and dancing along to every song." I can't wait til the next time I get to rock out with these guys!

It had been a while since I made my way over to Boneshire Breworks for their Thursday night

continued on page 10...

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Maiden America at Racehorse Tavern

Out & About contnued....

live music, but when I heard Nate Myers and Pete were playing I couldn't resist! Holly and Matt got there early and already had my pizza ordered! Boneshire pizza is delicious! Especially mixed in with a flight of beer and live music! It's always awesome to see a place packed with people on a Thursday night enjoying music. Nate and Pete definitely know how to bring in a crowd and put on a show! I happened to have my fluke in the car, so they invited me up to play Wagon Wheel with them and then Matt borrowed Pete's guitar to come up and play Country Roads with me and Nate. Good times for sure!! And a little more experience under my belt! Thanks guys for the opportunity.

The last night of the month was a busy Friday night! My first stop was out to the Fredericksburg Eagle Hotel for DMC Duo's monthly visit. The Hooootel was packed and standing room only! Darrell and Marisa have a great built-in crowd every time they play here, and it's always a race to the next available table. The Hoootel also has scrumptious food. I had their Pork BBQ Sandwich with Carolina Gold BBQ sauce.. Mmmmmm!!! DMC Duo will be back at the Fredericksburg Eagle Hotel on March 26th. You can check out the Eagle Hotel's schedule in this issue to see their full line up of amazing music and food specials. It's a great place to go eat, drink, and be merry while listening to amazing music!

After their 2nd Set it was time to continue on my way, I zoomed to PJ Whelihan's to catch the tail end of Derek's show and scooped up Angie and Michele to head down to Thomasville to the Racehorse Tavern for Maiden America. As soon as we got out of the car we could hear the party inside! As usual Maiden America had the place rockin'! Jimmy and his crew provide a great place and service to local bands and their fans. It's a great place to go let my hair down and rock the night away! The Racehorse has a lot going on throughout March. Check out their schedule and make your way down to the Racehorse, you won't be disappointed!

Well, that's all for this month! Such a whirlwind of craziness. A big event coming up in March is the Central PA Music Awards Show! As of the time I'm writing this there are still about 50 or so seats left! It will be awesome to see this super special show get sold out for the 3rd year in a row! Come hang out and help celebrate your local music scene! Flip through the magazine, and check out all of the other amazing events happening in your area.

Thanks again for all of your love and continued support. It

Maiden America at Racehorse Tavern

warms my heart to walk into a venue and see someone have a PA Musician Magazine sitting on their table, or watch them carry them out of the venue to read later. Without all of your support we wouldn't be, but we do need your support now more than ever! You don't have to be a band to advertise, maybe you're a car dealer selling trucks and trailers? Maybe a tattoo shop? What about a super fan that just wants to support their favorite band, or even their favorite writer (I know it's me). If you don't have the funds to advertise, I get it, but do yourself a favor and get out there and support local music! Music is all around us. Please get out there and support your local musicians and businesses. Music is definitely food for the soul!

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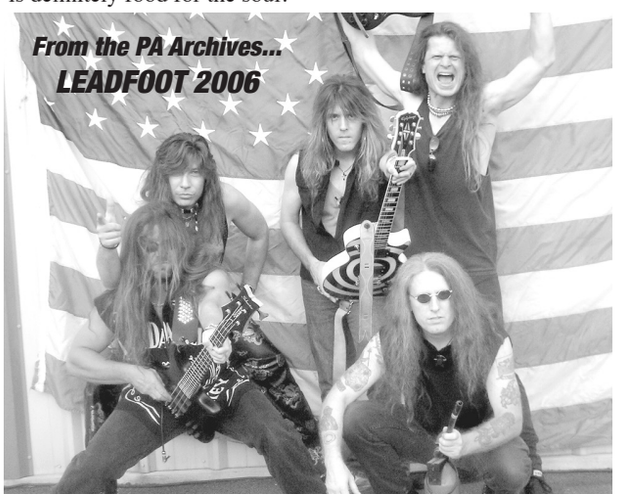


NATIONALS

By Eric Hoffman

Greetings Rockers 'N' Rollers! Former Scranton-natives, The Menzingers, visited Harrisburg on Feb 12 to a nearly sold-out show in the Capitol Ballroom at HMAC. The concert had been rescheduled twice due to Covid but the band made good and came to play their first show in 2022. The venue was packed with devoted fans of the now Philadelphia-based band. The Menzingers were great, ripping thru popular songs, "Strangers Forever," "The Obituaries," "Lookers" and "After The Party." Singer, Gregor Barnett, is currently touring solo for his album, 'Don't Go Throwing Roses In My Grave,' and then The Menzingers begin a nation-wide 31-date tour starting April 1 and ending at Philadelphia's Franklin Hall May 14.

Justin Bieber made a visit to City Star Diner in Manheim on Feb 2. According to his bodyguard with him, the pop singer was in the area to practice at Rock Lititz for his "The Justice World Tour 2022" which began Feb 18 in San Diego, Ca.

Justin Bieber at City Star Diner in Manheim

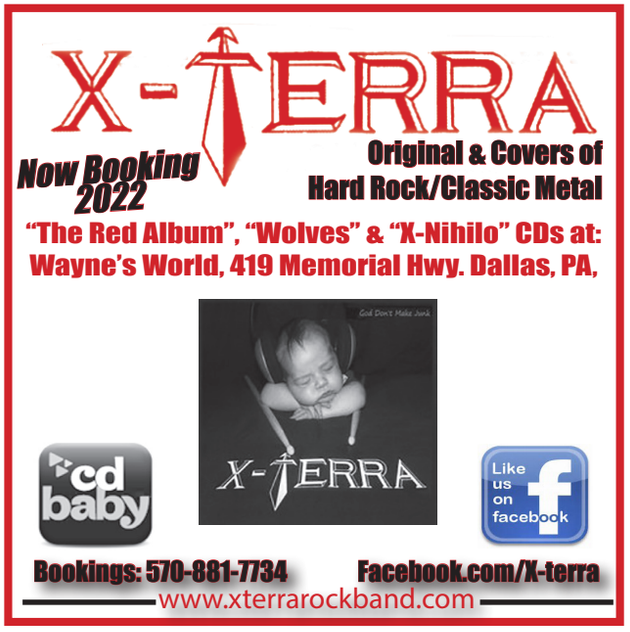
Paul McCartney announced his return to the road with 14-dates. The legendary rocker will hit a mix of arenas and stadiums, the "Got Back" run will include plays at Los Angeles' SoFi Stadium (where the Super Bowl took place), Boston's Fenway Park, New York's MetLife Stadium and Baltimore's Oriole Park on June 12. It's the former Beatles first show in Baltimore since 1964. "I said at the end of the last tour that I'd see you next time. I said I was going to get back to you," said McCartney in a statement. "Well, I got back!"

Dolly Parton, Eminem, Lionel Richie, Duran Duran and A Tribe Called Quest are among this year's first-time nominees for induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The Cleveland-based institution announced 17 artists and groups being considered for Rock Hall induction, including Rage Against the Machine, Pat Benatar, Dionne Warwick, Carly Simon, Judas Priest, Beck, Kate Bush, DEVO, Eurythmics, Fela Kuti, MC5 and the New York Dolls.

Chris Stapleton's "All-American Road Show Tour" has announced 25 new dates including Merriweather Post Pavilion on Aug 20 and Hersheypark Stadium on Aug 27. The country singer released his latest studio album, Starting Over, in 2020. The upcoming 64th annual GRAMMY Awards see Stapleton nominated for three awards, including Best Country Album for Starting Over, Best Country Song for his single "Cold," and Best Country Solo Performance for "You Should Probably Leave."

Legendary jam band Phish will return to the road this summer. The foursome plays two nights at Philadelphia's Mann Center, July 19-20 and two nights at Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia, Md., July 30-31. Foo Fighters have over 20-dates for

continued on page 12...



their 2022 North American Tour which begins at The Pavilion at Star Lake in Burgettstown, Pa. on May 14 and also visits Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field on July 24. Train will be hitting the road this summer along with Jewel and Blues Traveler. Other notable tours this summer include: The Lumineers, The Black Keys, Luke Bryan, Bad Bunny, Halsey, Bleachers.

Elvis Costello and Nick Lowe reunite for select dates on tour for the first time since 1989 for "The Boy Named If & Other Favourites" this summer. Elvis Costello and his band, The Imposters (Steve Nieve, Pete Thomas, Davey Faragher) will also be rejoined on stage by Texas guitarist Charlie Sexton. The tour visits Bensalem, PA on Aug 12 at Parx Casino.

Mark Lanegan, ex of grunge stalwarts Screaming Trees as well as a collaborator with Queens of the Stone Age and other artists, died Feb. 22 in his adopted home of Killarney, Ireland. No cause of death was given, but he battled and appeared to recover from a case of COVID that put him in a coma for three weeks last year. The 57-year old singer was a pioneer in the late '80s and early '90s of what would become grunge as frontman of Screaming Trees and their popular single, "Nearly Lost You."

Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend will regroup again as The Who for a summer arena tour. Titled, "The Who Hits Back!" tour, includes 29-dates including Philadelphia's Wells Fargo Center May 20, Washington DC's Capital One Arena May 23 and NYC's Madison Square Garden May 26. "Pete and I said we'd be back, but we didn't think we'd have to wait for two years for the privilege" Daltrey says. "This is making the chance to perfor feel even more special this time around. So many livelihoods have been impacted due to COVID, so we are thrilled to get everyone back together - the band, the crew and the fans. We're gearing up for a great show that hits back in the only way The Who know how. By giving it everything we got."

Nine Inch Nails will do a variety of shows in 2022, with a mix of major festival appearances and amphitheater dates announced spanning this spring and late summer. The tour will wrap Sept. 24 with a show in Cleveland, where NIN frontman and figurehead Trent Reznor founded the band in 1988. Support on that particular show will include industrial/metal veterans Ministry and Nitzer Ebb.

This year's Super Bowl LVI halftime performance featured some of hip-hop's legends including Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Mary J. Blige, Kendrick Lamar, Eminem, and 50 Cent. Taking to one of the world's biggest stages, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre kicked of the show with hit single, "The Next Episode" followed by "California Love." 50 Cent then surprised fans as an unannounced guest with "In Da Club" which segued into songs from Mary J. Blige and Kendrick Lamar. Eminem then joined Dr Dre for "Forget About Dre," "Lose Yourself" and "I Ain't Made at Cha." All six performers closed out the show with Dre's 1999 hit "Still D.R.E."

The jam community will descend on Montage Mountain in Scranton, Pa. from June 30 to July 3 for the 10th anniversary edition of Peach Music Festival. Trey Anastasio Band, The Black Crowes, Billy Strings and Joe Russo's Almost Dead will headline the event, which will also feature Goose, The Revivalists, Pigeons Playing Ping Pong, Steel Pulse, Jason Bonham's Led Zeppelin Evening, Andy Frasco & The U.N., Keller Williams, The Wailers, Trouble No More, The Word and many more. Since its 2012 inception, Peach has been a key event for the jam world.

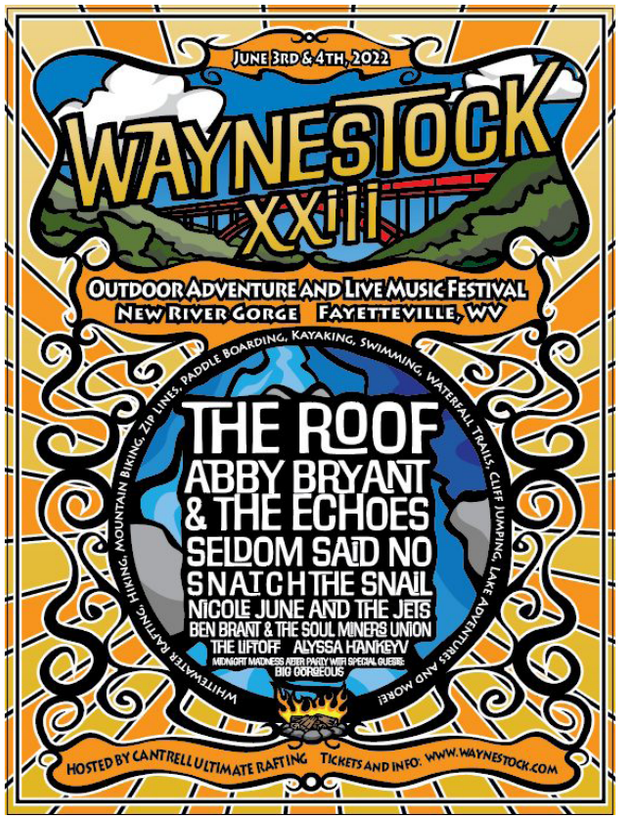
Kenny Chesney's long awaited "Here and Now 2022 Tour" has added 20 amphitheater shows to his already-announced 21-date stadium trek. The eight-time Entertainer of the Year is known for his stadium shows, performing to more than a million fans each summer. He concludes every tour traditionally playing two sold-out shows at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Ma on Aug 26-27. Chesney visits Pittsburgh' Heinz Field June 11, Philadelphia' Lincoln Financial Field June 18 and Merriweather Post Pavilion Aug 10.

Dave Matthews Band will play 46-shows for their 2022 North American summer tour. The band began in 1991 and has sold more than 25 million tickets and a collective 38 million CDs and DVDs combined. In 2018, Dave Matthews Band became the first group in history to have seven consecutive studio albums at No. 1 on the Billboard 200.

Neil Young's music will be removed from Spotify at this request, following the veteran rock star's protest over the streaming service airing a popular podcast that featured a figure criticized for spreading COVID misinformation. Spotify said that it regretted Young's decision, "but hope to welcome him back soon." Young had more than six million monthly listeners on Spotify. He appreciates his record company, Warner Brothers, standing behind him, it was "a huge loss for my record company to absorb." Young, 76, said "I realized I could not continue to support Spotify's life-threatening misinformation to the music loving people."

Hersheypark Stadium summer 2022 shows: Thomas Rhett - June 24. Def Leppard / Motley Crue / Poison / Joan Jett - July 12. Santana / Earth Wind & Fire - Aug 6. Zac Brown Band - Aug 14. Rod Stewart / Cheap Trick - Aug 20. Chris Stapleton - Aug 27.

MARCH SHOWS: Journey / Toto - Hershey Giant Center Mar 4. Martini Bros / Dirt Road Redemption - Shermans Dale Creek Inn Mar 4. The Badlees - Hershey Englewood Mar 4-5. Ministry / Melvins - Baltimore Soundstage Mar 6. Inhaler - Washington DC 9:30 Club Mar 7. Inhaler - Philadelphia TLA Mar 7. KIX - Millersville Phantom Power Mar 18-19. Dirt Cheap - Thomasville Racehorse Tavern Mar 18. CPMA Awards - Hershey Theatre Mar 24.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Article & photos by Chris Rider

Waynestock XXIII is coming up soon, June 3-5th, and it's bigger and better than ever. What started as a group of 40 or so friends going on whitewater rafting trip has turned into an epic weekend festival that offers all kinds of outdoor adventures and live music in an unforgettable setting.

In 2020 The Roof was scheduled to play at Waynestock, opening for Yam Yam. The band was doing very well in the State College area, and we were all looking forward to it. The bands were booked in the fall of 2019, before anyone even heard the word Covid. Well, we all know what happened in late February of 2020. The world went into lockdown. We all spent months in near isolation, just waiting for the weather to break, so we could get outside and feel a sense of freedom from our cocoons.

The Waynestock crew debated if the event should even happen. Many others decided to cancel. The decision was made to carry on, as it is an outdoor event in the mountains of WV. Just 4 days before the start of Waynestock XXI, the Governor of WV shut down all live music. Indoor or outdoor. Most of the production and stage crew were already on their way. Obviously, this changed everything.

Two members of The Roof (Francis and Sklar) came anyway, and brought guitars and a hand drum. Much to the delight of everyone, starving for some live music, they performed outside by the campfire. It was truly a joy to just see and hear a

live performance after being deprived of it, for what felt like an eternity. The two boys killed it. The raspy, soulful voice that belted out from Francis was jaw dropping, and Sky (who is the bands drummer) played guitar and filled the air with some tasty harmonies to compliment his lead singer. We were all hooked.

The decision was made to bring the band back the following year to headline Waynestock XXII. The coveted Saturday night closer spot… They were psyched, as was everyone in attendance.

Despite a few mishaps with generators, the music was exactly what the doctor ordered. We were all treated to such great acts from across the US. On Saturday night, The Roof took the stage and immediately captivated everyone there. About 20 minutes into their performance, the sound shut off, the lights went down, and the stage was silent and black. We all assumed there was an issue with the generator and a few staff people ran back to check on it. That's when they were confronted with the owner of the camp ground, who unplugged the main feed, shutting it all down. Apparently, he decided this was the time to enforce some unknown noise statute in the town a few miles away. Much to the shock of everyone there, the show was over, just like that.

The boys managed to pull together and give the disappointed fans a more intimate fireside, acoustic show. They never complained, and truly made the best of a bad situation.

Now, it's 2022. Waynestock XXIII is a few months away, and a few things have changed. Waynestock moved to a new location, and The Roof was asked to return for what would be their 3rd time. Of course, there is no other place for them but the Saturday night headliner spot.

We are all anxious to finally get to see the full extent of what they have in their arsenal. Recently they released a single titled "We Sure Did". Well, maybe they did, but they ain't done yet. Not at Waynestock.

Other bands that are scheduled include (but not limited to!): Abby Bryant & The Echoes, Seldom Said No, Snatch the Snail, Nicole June, The Liftoff, Alyssa Hankey, Big Gorgeous, and Ben Brandt & The Soul Miners Union.

The new venue, Cantrell Ultimate Rafting, is excited to have Waynestock and offers a ton of outdoor adventures to partake in during the day. Not only offering whitewater rafting, they offer 2 stages as well as an indoor venue for late night entertainment, a great bar and restaurant. The entire property is reserved for the festival which is a first and very exciting change for Waynestock as well. Craft beer will be provided on-site once again by HiJinx brewing company including a refreshing Session Pale Ale surprisingly called "Waynestock Pale Ale". You can't help but have an awesome weekend at this event!

Find out more about Waynestock and the awesome people involved at the following websites:

www.waynestock.com
www.theroofband.com
https://www.abbybryantandtheechoes.com
https://seldomsaidnoband.com
https://www.soulminersunion.com
https://www.snatchthesnail.com
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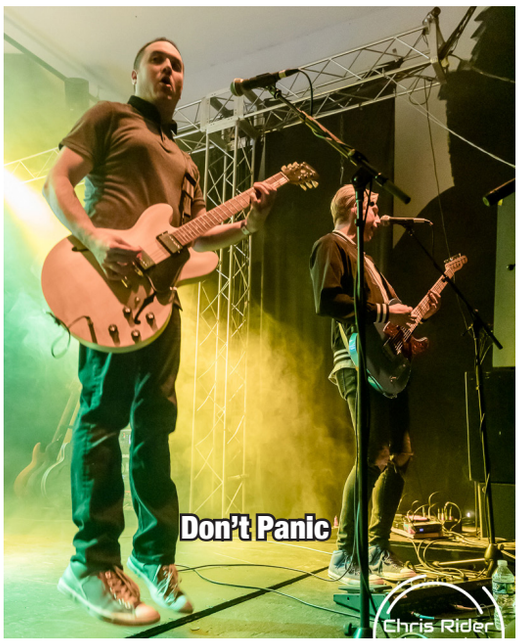

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RIDER'S ON THE STORM

By Chris Rider

February came and went quickly. It's amazing how a month having only 2 or 3 days less than the rest of the months can seem so much shorter. I'm sure it's mostly a figment of my imagination, but it that's just how it felt to me...short. I still managed to get out to see 10 bands between 5 different shows with a wide variety of styles from blues, to hard rock, to a new genre to me: "Nudist Punk Rock". Every time I get out, I'm reminded how awesome our local music scene truly is here, and how lucky we are to have it. From the incredible venues, the super talented musicians, and die-hard music fans, we really do have it pretty damn good here.

My first trip was down to HMAC for a 5 band show on the Stage On Herr. Opening up the show was Towson, Maryland based pop-rock band Kings Of The Wild Things. These guys came out with fast, upbeat jams that got the crowd pumped up quickly. They were a lot of fun to watch and listen to, playing a nice mix of covers and originals. They are on a mission to bring "jazz hands" back. I'm not sure why, but it seemed important to them LOL. This evening they had a bassist filling in for them (I apologize for not catching his name!) on extremely short notice who played with such skill with the rest of the band that I would never have guessed he was just filling in. This sort of musicianship is just astounding to me, so kudos to him and the rest of the band! The second band up was Central PA based Edgewood, a punk rock party band trio that played a setlist of originals with a ton of energy. These guys clearly had a blast being on stage and sharing their music with the crowd. Next up was August Winters, a solo project of singer-songwriter Drew Zimmerman from State College, PA. I found it a little harder to put this group into a genre, but I suppose I'd call it a mix of pop and punk with a dash of Rage Against The Machine tossed in for good measure. They played a number of their originals along with a few covers, all with a sky-high level of energy, and a stage presence that speaks well of their experience which includes opening for artists like Red Jumpsuit Apparatus. I'd been trying to catch their show for a while and was very happy I finally did. Fourth up on stage for the night was Poconos based Don't Panic, a Pop/Punk Rock and Roll band with two full length albums released so far. These guys were great, they had a large following in the crowd singing along with them and played with a level of energy that I'd kill for nowadays. The final band for the evening was self described "Nudist Punk Rock" band Keep Flying. I'm not sure where the nudist part comes in as it didn't make an appearance on this night, but this six piece band included a tenor sax and a trombone. These guys spent as much time in the air as they did on the stage playing a great mix of fast paced high energy punk rock to a very enthusiastic crowd that danced, thrashed and sang along with them.

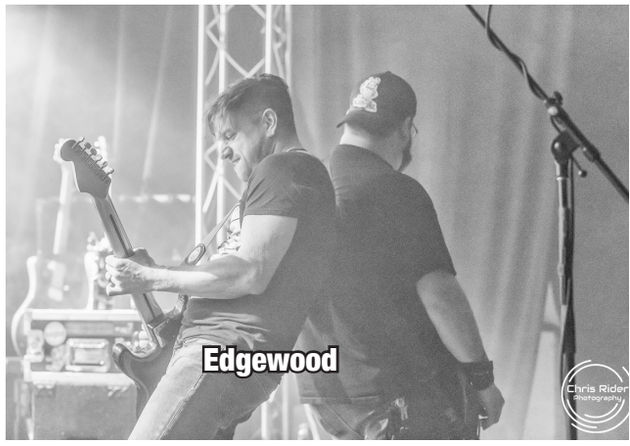
My second trip out was just a few days later, back to HMAC for a show that had such a high demand for tickets, it was moved from Stage On Herr up to the Capital Room stage to handle the swarm of fans that came for this show. Opening up the show was Keith Wallen from Breaking Benjamin. Keith came out and played an 8 song solo acoustic set with a mix of songs from his recently released solo album "This World Or The Next"...moving and soulful songs that I really enjoyed. He also played a cover or two including Roxette's "The Look" in a style that I probably would not have imagined for that song. I met him after his set as well for a moment, and he was a very nice and gracious guy. It was very cool meeting him. Headlining the set was Grammy-Nominated rock band Red. Not normally an acoustic band, the guys were doing an acoustic tour with Keith and put on an extremely powerful and raw performance. These guys brought a great crowd to Harrisburg, full of fans that love their music. The interaction throughout the show between the band and the crowd is what I love to see at shows. Fans of all ages, whole families had come out for this show and all of them were enthusiastically singing along with each of their songs.

Our next trip out was up to Iron Vines to see Rebecca Dressler play her honest, expressive music to a nice crowd. She sings with a sweet and soulful voice with a little bit of grit to it. She performed a number of originals plus a few covers including "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree", "Landslide", and "Fast Car". She's currently working on her next EP expected to be released later this year. You can find more of her music on her website: www.rebeccadresslermusic.com

The following week I headed down to The Englewood in Hershey for a promo shoot with Ben Brandt & the Soul Miners Union, as well as to catch their show. Opening up the show was Noah Fowler. Originally from the Carlisle area and currently living down in Nashville, Noah plays a mix of original tunes including a few that he wrote recently, rooted in Folk, Americana and Bluegrass styles. I caught him a little over a year ago in Carlisle, so it was nice seeing him play again. Headlining the evening was a familiar name in the local blues scene, Ben Brandt with his trio the Soul Miners Union. The group features Ben Brandt on guitar and vocals, Joe Shattis on drums, and recently added Liam Galiano on bass. Liam may have just joined the group, but he's a perfect fit and played as though he'd been with them for years. The trio brings a blues and rock mix that pays strong homage to the likes of Jimi Hendrix, Joe Bonamassa, Stevie Ray Vaughn and many other classic blues greats. Smooth, soulful and full of passion, these guys put on a great show and even debuted a new song "Love of Illusions".

Our final trip for the month was back up to Iron Vines Winery to celebrate Ken Damelio's birthday as he played with his friend Bonnie as the duo The Dreamcatchers. It turned out to be a celebration for Bonnie's birthday as well which took place a few days earlier. Playing a wide mix of covers including "Crimson & Clover", "Mustang Sally", "Beast of Burden" and many more, these two put on a great show for friends and family.

March is already looking to be a packed and exciting month. I'll be covering one of the shows at The Englewood showcasing the reunion weekend of The Badlees, the Central Pennsylvania Music Hall Of Fame's music award show is later in the month, and a ton of great music all over in between those shows.



So there it is, my month of music through my eyes and ears. Just a reminder, if you've got a show coming up that I should see, make sure to send me an invite, shoot me an email or a message, let me know about it. Venues, please don't hesitate to reach out to me as well. The majority of the shows that I go and shoot I find out about through invites from all of you or your friends. Hit me up on facebook: @chrisriderphotography or email: chrisriderphotography@gmail.com, stop me if you see me out & around and say hi. Until next month, go find some live music and give them and the venue your support, they truly need it more now than they ever did.

THE PROFESSOR

By Jim Price

As Spring officially arrives later this month, symbolic of rebirth, hope and new beginnings as green leaves return and flowers begin blooming, an epiphany came to me based on things I observed in recent days. The night before writing this, I attended the Skid Row concert at Altoona's historic Mishler Theatre (full recap in next month's article). During the event, members of Skid Row took moments to express their heartfelt appreciation to the sold-out house for supporting the concert and enabling the group to earn their living making music. Singer Z.P. Theart, bassist Rachel Bolan and guitarist Dave "Snake" Sabo each related how the COVID-19 shutdown kept them from the joy of making music in front of audiences, and – after two years – they were thankful to be able to enjoy that opportunity once again. I also had been thinking about Ukraine…When the news bulletins first broke reporting that Russian forces had begun their attack, I quickly started watching live news coverage of the situation on Great Britain's SkyNews livestream. They had reporters stationed in Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, where it was just before sunrise. The attack was in its very earliest stages, and not much activity was happening around Kyiv yet; the camera shots showed a city waking up, with some folks walking dogs and going to work as usual, and what appeared to be public works vehicles doing their early morning errands along city streets like normal – it looked similar to routine city life here in the U.S. But that routine was soon disrupted as the Russian attack intensified, and Ukraine was jolted out of the comfort of daily life and forced into defending their homeland. It reminded me that we should always take stock, be thankful and never take for granted the pleasures we enjoy in this life, because – as the COVID-19 situation and the current strife in Ukraine remind us – it can all be disrupted and taken away from us without warning. Be thankful and appreciative for what you have.

I'm always thankful for the joy of live music…One big highlight I witnessed in recent weeks was the launch of the Classic Vinyl Concert Series early last month at The State Theater of Johnstown. In this new series, area musicians take on and perform some of the most celebrated albums of the vinyl record era. Led by singer, keyboardist and director Jeff Webb, an ensemble of 17 musicians from Johnstown and surrounding areas opened the series by performing Stevie Wonder's epic 1976 double-album set "Songs in the Key of Life" before a sold-out house. The musicians – Jeff plus Mike Meketa on keys; Scott Jeffreys on bass; Randy Penrod and Josh Covert on guitars; Dom Peruso, Mike Bodolosky and Kraig Maldet on drums and percussion; Josh Hillard, Larry Detwiler and Josh Brumbaugh on trumpets and trombones; Dan Hutton and Greg Maiocco on saxophones; and singers Venus Hall, Bruce Harris, Ra'Anee Watson and Mere K Pouewells – performed the "Songs in the Key of Life" album in its entirety, with an intermission between the first and second records of the album. The musicianship was stellar and exciting throughout the performance, with almost every song directing the spotlight toward individual performers or sections of the ensemble. Highlights were constant – including the album's popular hit songs "Sir Duke," "I Wish," "Isn't She Lovely," "As" and "Another Star," all which roused folks to stand and dance in front of their seats. Other highlights included renditions of many of the album's deeper treasures such as "Pastime Paradise" (which Coolio reworked into his 1995 hit "Gangsta's Paradise"), instrumentals such as the guitar workout "Contusion" (which spotlighted Randy and Josh) and "Easy Goin' Evening" (with the spotlight on the brass section), "Black Man" (with an area school classroom voicing the song's call-and-response homestretch) and Ra'Anee's excellent voice on "If It's Magic." The talent and the enthusiasm displayed on the stage this night provided many jaw-dropping moments and kept the audience moving and grooving in their seats; and enabled audience members to reconnect with Stevie Wonder's masterpiece or even discover this music for the first time. When the audience called for one more song at the end of the album, the musicians closed out the night with a feisty rendition of Stevie Wonder's 1969 hit "Signed, Sealed, Delivered (I'm Yours)." Jeff announced that the Classic Vinyl Concert Series will likely take place twice per year; the next concert will take place on November 5, with a cast of musicians performing the Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" and "Abbey Road" albums in their entirety.

Another recent highlight was the "Acoustic Altoona" showcase at the ArtsAltoona Center in late January, which shined the spotlight on three area singers and songwriters. Devin Sherman, Brother Jack and Alyssa Hankey all presented their distinctive styles of original acoustic music to a receptive, nice-sized audience. Devin led off with a mixture of songs from his album "Devin Sherman Does a Demo" plus newer song creations, all performed with a strong voice and cordial stage presence. He did tunes from the album such as "Normal," "Think Again," "Let's Get Weird," "My Own Damn Blues," "Sylvia's Veil" and "Plant a Garden." He also introduced newer numbers such as "Village News," "Look What I Got," "We Are All Troglodytes," "Unsung," "Appalachian Wind" and "I'm Not Dead Yet." Devin was well-received by the audience, and successfully broke the ice with

continued on next page…

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the onlookers to get the evening started. Next, Brother Jack entertained the audience with his playful set of original folk tunes. Jack's songs explored plenty of interesting topics, from breakfast food ("Pancakes") to reptiles ("Snake Ate My Radio") to the sun exploding ("Rivers of Light") to bugs ("Bugs") and more. His songs were often comedic but observational, as Brother Jack shared his perspectives on life and this bizarre rock we live on in his freewheeling, conversational and old-timey, folksy style. Jack performed many of his songs with acoustic guitar, but broke out the banjo on several as well, including numbers from his latest album, "Busted Banjo." Brother Jack's songs and cordial presence put smiles on the faces of the audience, and his set was also well-received. Finishing the evening, Alyssa Hankey captivated the audience with her hearty style of original, blues-rooted folk. She blended older material with newer songs, including several from her upcoming new album slated for an April release. With her heartfelt and emotive delivery, Alyssa sang such numbers as her portrait of rust belt western PA, "They Used to Make Things Here"; her ode to a turbulent time in American history, "1968"; as well as such songs as "Darkness Coming Down," "The Good," "Love Song," "Roots," "West Virginia" and more. Alyssa's voice and presence held the audience's attention – at several moments during the performance, she brought the house to total silence with her words and total feeling behind her voice. Alyssa's set provided an emphatic exclamation point to cap the night. This was a very good show from start to end, as all three performers presented their styles of music in an intimate setting, which allowed the audience members to more easily connect with each performer's presence, voice and words. Also enjoyable was the vibe of creativity in this space, as several participants were painting a cardboard tapestry along a side wall, while the artistic creations of Chelsea McMaster adorned other walls and spaces throughout the ArtsAltoona Center's "Blank Canvas." I totally enjoyed this, and look forward to seeing more "Acoustic Altoona" showcases in the future.

Live music was again part of the 50th year of Penn State's annual 46-hour dance marathon, THON, which returned as an in-person event to the university's Bryce Jordan Center last month. I wasn't able to attend in person, but thanks to THON being live-streamed through the event's website, I was able to witness at least one of the performing groups during the weekend, State College's Canary. Singer Kat Leverenz, guitarist Zach Dennis, keyboardist Sam Horn, bassist Alex Mijangos and drummer Tony Niuman kept THON's 700-plus dancers and a multitude of onlookers moving and grooving with their mixture of rock and pop hits and favorites. Kat showed a strong voice up front as she sang numbers from Amy Winehouse, Gnarls Barkley, Black Keys, Jet, Elle King, Abba and more. Some of Canary's highlights included a sing-along version of Adele's "Rolling in the Deep" and the rousing rendition of the Isley Brothers' "Shout" to end their set. Some of the other performers during THON weekend included Donny Burns & the 3rd Degree, SouthPaw, Anchor & Arrow, My Hero Zero and others. The largest student-run philanthropy in the world, THON 2022 set a new record this year, raising $13,756,374.50 for Four Diamonds at Penn State Health Children's Hospital and the fight against childhood cancer.

One thing I always admire about this area's music community is its eagerness to help out the local community and people in need. Bone Jacked donated their talents last month to help a family and the Tyrone community remember an infant whose life was cut short by SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) just five months after his birth. The Orion Patrick Ellis Benefit took place at the Tyrone Hookies Fire Company Social Hall, and featured Bone Jacked, along with a spaghetti dinner, basket giveaways and a 50/50 drawing. Bone Jacked – singer and guitarist Kip Woodring, guitarist Chris Guella, bassist D.J. Gates and drummer Terry Wilt – rocked and rolled throughout the afternoon with their mix of hits, classic and southern rock favorites. This band is always rock solid and entertaining; Kip sings with heart and soul, exuding constant enthusiasm on the guitar strings, and this day taking his performance out to the fans on the dance floor several times. Bone Jacked brought dancers to that floor with tunes from Lynyrd Skynyrd, Bob Seger, Tom Petty, Stevie Ray Vaughan, the Eagles and others. Some highlights included the group's "slide show," as Kip displayed his slide guitar skills on the George Thorogood triple-shot of "Bad to the Bone," "Move It On Over" and "Get A Haircut"; also a guest drummer named A.J. who showed her skills on the Surfaris' "Wipe Out" and Chuck Berry's "Johnny B. Goode."

It's always exciting to see exciting new young bands arriving on area stages. After hearing a lot of buzz and rave reviews about them, I finally got to see Altoona's Sweet Desire for the first time last month at McGarvey's, as half of a double-bill with The Jaded Lips. Featuring singer Jordan McCaulley, guitarist (and theremin operator) Kenton Lewis, bassist Joshua Simpson and drummer Trey Boore, Sweet Desire displayed a sound rooted in late 1960s/early 1970s psychedelic hard rock. Early Led Zeppelin and the Doors come to mind through their original songs, and Jordan's soaring howl suggests a young Robert Plant. One highlight journey started with the group's title song, "Sweet Desire," which led into Trey's drum solo, which then transitioned into a fiery version of Led Zeppelin's "Whole Lotta Love" with Kenton generating effects with a theremin, and the group teasing a few seconds of The Doors' "Roadhouse Blues." Sweet Desire kept it exciting with go-for-broke passion throughout their set, and had the packed house crowd howling approval. With a third band, Skyline Drive, not able to perform this night, The Jaded Lips followed Sweet Desire's set by performing more than two hours of nonstop rock'n'roll. Singer and guitarist Mike Wertz, bassist

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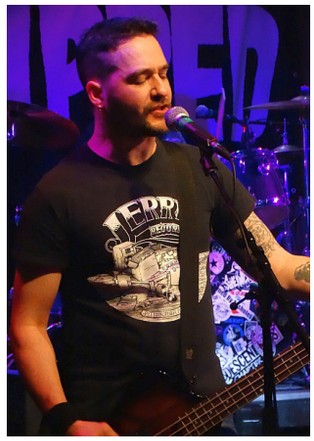

Frank Conrad / The Snipped

Chris Guella & Kip Woodring of Bone Jacked

Tim Beahm / Captain 90's

The Professor continued....

Hunter James and drummer David Applas mixed a number of their original songs with various covers and audience requests. Their own sound rooted in classic rock with a touch of soul, The Jaded Lips performed catchy original tunes such as "Where Do We Run," "It's Not Me," "Jealous Eyes," "Miss Sunflower" and "Lockdown," along with a number of newer numbers. Their cover selection was wide-ranging, with versions of Bill Withers' "Use Me," Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," the Talking Heads' "Burning Down the House," The Stooges' "I Wanna Be Your Dog" and their funk-rocking take of Snoop Dogg's "Gin and Juice" all keeping folks on the dance floor. Mike's gritty baritone voice, Hunter's constant movements around the stage and David's driving drum beats kept things exciting through the duration of the night.

Also at McGarvey's, I checked out Altoona's JuJu Bone Blues Band for the first time last month as they performed the first half of a double-bill with the Pennsoulvanians. Evolved from the previous Blacksnakes Blues Band, JuJu Bone features the former Blacksnakes core of singer Brian Elliott, guitarist Jason Feathers, bassist Hunter James and drummer Nate Woods; plus Brett Fanelli on keys and Lyndsay Reilly on saxophone. This group celebrated electric blues as they mixed classic blues numbers and originals. With Brian delivering his hearty blues howl, the group fired through renditions of Howlin' Wolf's "Little Red Rooster" and "Killing Floor," John Lee Hooker's "Boom Boom," Willie Dixon's "Hoochie Coochie Man," Eddie Boyd's "Have You Ever Been Mistreated" and more, and did their original blues numbers "Walking Dead Blues," "Bottom Shelf Woman" and "Blue Light Blues." JuJu Bone provided sharp musicianship, with Jason, Brett and Lyndsay displaying dazzling solo work and playing off one another for charged highlights. The Pennsoulvanians looked a little different this night, as both of their Mike's – vocalist Michael Thomas and bassist Michael Stanley – were not on the stage; Hunter James took over bass duties, joining singer Chet Denny, guitarist Nate Nagle, Brett on keys, Lyndsay on sax, and Todd Harshbarger on drums. The Pennsoulvanians delivered soulful sounds with their all-original set, doing their popular numbers such as the reggae-driven "Day Has Come," "Hustle Til the Morning," "Round Here," "Slip Out of Your Clothes," and their finisher "Swagger." The group's grooves kept folks moving on the dance floor, and the mood stayed at a constant high from start to end.

The Snipped released their second full-length album, "Tales from the Workbench," in late January (see the CD review elsewhere in this issue) with a CD-release triple-bill at McGarvey's. I missed the sets by the two openers, The Daylight Society and The Flannels, but arrived in time to witness The Snipped delivering their full punk-rocking "dadcore" fury. The fatherly cast of singer and guitarist Mike Wax, lead guitarist Jeff Reid, bassist Frank Conrad and drummer Justin Burket kept pedal to the medal as they fired through songs off the new album such as "Goddamn Shame," "The Mine," "Be That Way," "Back in the Day" and their slamming reboot of Bruce Springsteen's "Born to Run." They did songs off their "#dadcore" CD as well, such as "Waste My Time," "All We Know" and "Hand That Feeds." The Snipped's execution was tight, sharp, fast and furious, and their vocals and harmonies were on target. The Snipped followed this show by heading westward for their "World Tour" – of Ohio, doing shows in Columbus and Cincinnati.

And I saw Captain 90's as they celebrated 90's-era rock at McGarvey's in late January. Colin Lennox on lead vocals, bass and didgeridoo; Tim Beahm on guitar and vocals; and Shaun Shumac behind the drum kit took a nice-sized McGarvey's audience on a 90's rock journey, mixing up favorites plus several forgotten '90s gems. Captain 90's did tunes from Green Day, Smashing Pumpkins, Toadies, Bush, Lenny Kravitz, Collective Soul, Harvey Danger, Everclear, Nirvana, Local H, Stone Temple Pilots, Cake and others. They also broke out some pleasant surprises such as Dishwalla's "Counting Blue Cars," Southern Culture On The Skids' "Camel Walk," Spacehog's "In the Meantime," Nine Inch Nails' "Wish," Silverchair's "Israel's Son" and Butthole Surfers' "Who Was in My Room Last Night?" Colin also rumbled out some tones on the didgeridoo to lead into the group's third set. It all sounded good; since making their debut late last year, Captain 90's sounds stronger with each show.

Huntingdon now has another venue to enjoy live music, as the Muddy Run Tavern has opened a new and larger location near downtown Huntingdon. Backlash became the first band to initiate the new location last month. With Buck Dickson and Wade Shumaker both singing and playing guitars, Andy Krishak playing bass and Michael Simone supplying the drumbeats,

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Backlash kept the large Muddy Run audience happy with their mixture of mostly 1990's favorites. With Buck and Wade switching lead singing duties, Backlash maintained the dancefloor activity with tunes from Collective Soul, Weezer, White Stripes, Bush, Black Crowes, Blur, Harvey Danger, Radiohead, Sublime and more. Backlash kept the music constant and the pace upbeat, and when the crowd demanded more at night's end, the group answered with their version of Metallica's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" to cap the night.

After spending a day completing my monthly PA Musician delivery duties last month, I motored my way to the Spring Dam Brewing Co. in Roaring Spring to "party with Artie," as longtime Bedford-based performer Artie Burtnett entertained a nice-sized crowd. Switching between acoustic and electric guitars, Artie performed a blend of classic rock and country numbers, along the way showcasing his high-ranging, gritty vocal style. Artie sounded confident and comfortable on all of it; from Kiss' "Hard Luck Woman" and The Who's "Behind Blue Eyes" to Jamey Johnson's "In Color" and Chris Stapleton's "Broken Halos," plus songs by CCR, Lynyrd Skynyrd, John Mellencamp, Eric Clapton, Rod Stewart and more. Artie also poured heart and guts into his renditions of CCR's "Long As I Can See the Light" and Poison's "Something to Believe In," and gave a reverent treatment to Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah." The show and Spring Dam's tasty brews made for an enjoyable "party with Artie"; Artie Burtnett plays throughout Bedford and southern Blair Counties; watch for his show near you.

The Giants Of Science have been celebrating the fun side of 1980s rock and pop since the mid-1990's, and their fan base is extending into a new generation. This was obvious during the group's visit last month to Altoona's 4D's Lounge, as young fans populated the dance floor while the Giants delivered their charged, happy-go-lucky show. Singer, guitarist and ringleader Mick, bassist and singer Johnny 5, keyboardist and singer Scotty B and drummer Steve elevated the dance floor party with 80's-era favorites from Soft Cell, Bruce Springsteen, Frankie Goes to Hollywood, Dexy's Midnight Runners, Bryan Adams, A-ha and many more. Beyond the music, the Giants Of Science kept it friendly with the dance floor crowd and made them part of the show, with some dancers busting their moves on the stage. Generating a fun time each night is why the Giants Of Science stay steadily busy on stages across the state; watch for their return to the 4D's Lounge on March 26.

News and notes…The Spin Doctors and Railroad Earth have been announced as headliners for this year's annual Flood City Music Festival; this year's event takes place July 29-30 at People's Natural Gas Park in Johnstown…This year's annual Route 22 Rock & Blues Festival will take place July 15-16 at the Lincoln Caverns Campground near Huntingdon; the performer line-up will be announced soon…Raven and the Wren, Canary, Hannah Bingman, Anchor & Arrow, Hops & Vines, Kristi Jean & Her Ne'er Do Wells, Miss Melanie and Natascha & the Spy Boys will perform at the "Women's Voices" concert at State College's State Theatre on March 26; proceeds benefit the State Theatre…

Western PA-based Allman Brothers tribute band An Evening With announced the addition of a new drummer, as Dane Whatule joins the group's roster…Roadkill is now seeking a new drummer, as Clayton Miller has left the group to pursue other musical projects…Guitarist Tom Buck has stepped away from Cambria County classic rockers Fuse to devote more time to his family and grandchildren…Harrisburg hard rockers Steel are seeking a new frontman, after the group's longtime singer, Chris Redding, departed the group to focus more attention on his singing duties with Road Case…Chip & the Charge Ups have announced the addition new drummer Nolan Allen...SamarA have found their new frontman; Eric Pensyl will take over lead vocal duties, replacing Nigel Dirt...Images Of Eden is entering the recording studio to record two follow-up releases to their 2021 album "Angel Born"; both will be recorded simultaneously, with an initial EP followed by a new full-length album, and both will be released on Pavement Entertainment...Medusa's Disco will release their new full-length album on May 14 during a release event at the Harrisburg Midtown Arts Center.

The regional music scene was saddened by the passing of two musicians in recent weeks…Shane Burger, former guitar player for Harrisburg-based 80s metal and arena rock tribute band LeadFoot, passed away unexpectedly on January 31 at age 52. Shane was a popular and gifted guitar shredder, whose style was often compared to Randy Rhoads…And Dave Smith, who fronted Pittsburgh-based Rush tribute group Distant Signals, passed away in his sleep on February 2 at age 53.

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PA MUSICIAN REVIEWS

By Jim Price

THE SNIPPED – TALES FROM THE WORKBENCH (Allegedly Records) Self-described "old guys playing punk rock music," Altoona-based "dadcore" rockers The Snipped deliver more fire and fury on their second album, Tales From the Workbench. Now signed with independent record label Allegedly Records, The Snipped's cast of singer and guitarist Mike Wax, lead guitarist Jeff Reid, bassist Frank Conrad and drummer Justin Burket churn out ten tracks of unapologetic, fast-firing, punk-driven rock. Concise melodies, go-for-broke playing and Mike's gruff-edged howl abound as The Snipped tackles themes of current events, societal ills, reminiscence and fatherly advice. The disc-opener "Goddamn Shame" vents about today's angry times and the circumstances that fuel them, while "Screens" rails against too much modern-day life wasted within computers and smartphones. These dads celebrate fatherhood with the hard-charging "The Mine," which reveres fatherly sacrifice to provide a better life for a son. Several songs concern establishing one's individuality and direction, such as the get-out-of-town rant "Distant," the high-powered "No Direction" and the ignore-the-critics sentiment of "Be That Way." The fast and furious disc-closer "Back in the Day" weighs past memories versus the present. The Snipped also includes one cover song, offering their slamming, crowd-pleasing update of Bruce Springsteen's "Born to Run." This album provides constant action, as The Snipped keeps pedal to the metal; the pace is fast and the performances hearty and all-out. The song hooks snare your attention, and Mike's vocals and the group's harmonies consistently hit the bullseye. Mostly recorded by Andy Mathias at CatTree Studios (with drums recorded by Steve Holtz at RackBall Records), this set sounds sharp, balanced and full. These dads again school the young'uns on how punk rock is done; Tales From the Workbench shows that The Snipped's brand of "dadcore" slams vibrant rock and rancor. (The CD can be purchased at the group's shows, through their Bandcamp page and other online platforms.)

DON'T PANIC – DARK HORSE (no label) Founded in the Pocono Mountains in 2019, Don't Panic has quickly gained popularity with their vibrant blend of pop, punk and rock'n'roll, strongly demonstrated on their second album, Dark Horse. Lead singer and guitarist Ted Felicetti wrote or co-wrote all of the album's dozen tracks; flanking him are AJ Larsen on guitar, Keith Slader on bass and Anthony Paesano on drums. Channeling influences such as Bayside, Lit and Foo Fighters, Don't Panic shows their own knack for catchy, quick-hitting song hooks, tight and energetic playing, and clear and crisp vocals and vocal harmonies. Setting the table is the album's opening track, the boisterous relationship-in-trouble rocker "Watership Down," co-written by Ted and Bowling For Soup frontman Jaret Reddick. Don't Panic rocks with backbeat-driven numbers such as "Woe I" and "I Wish You Well," and fast-firing rants such as "Fire Walk With Me," the title track "Dark Horse" and "Final Thread." Other serious earworm threats after first listen include the winding melody of "Ramona" and the driving "Broken" with its slight hints of classic Goo Goo Dolls. This album is all killer and no filler – these songs are direct and to the point, the arrangements are lean and mean, and Don't Panic's vocals and harmonies drive the arrow to the bullseye on each one. Engineered, mixed and mastered by AJ Larsen at Soundmine Recording Studio in East Stroudsburg, Dark Horse sounds sharp and full, allowing this band and their songs to achieve full punch. It's easy to hear why Don't Panic is a band on the rise – this group nicely bridges the gap between pop punk and straight-up-the-gut rock'n'roll here, and Dark Horse's infectious variety of hard-rocking ear candy will make fans of high-powered rock'n'roll want to go back for more. (The album can be obtained through the group's website, www.dontpanicofficial.com, and through their Bandcamp page.)

BOB RANDALL – THUNDERBIRD (Randall Productions) Based near Selinsgrove, Bob Randall has been creating country music for most of his life, and spent recent years exploring and experiencing the country scene in Nashville before returning to PA in 2019. Bob further defines his classic outlaw country style and sound through the 11 tracks of his seventh and latest album, Thunderbird. A multi-instrumentalist who plays acoustic and electric guitar, mandolin, dobro, banjo and fiddle; Bob frequently sings numbers about relationships gone sour and the ins and outs of love. Bob croons a sarcastic tone on the album-opener "Don't Blame It On Me" with its message of reaping what you sow. He weaves a few tear-in-beer odes along the way; including his mission to soothe a broken heart on "Never Told Her Goodbye" (which resurfaces later in the album as "Telling Me Goodbye"), his story of a romance doomed by booze on "Fallen Angel," his ballad of unrequited romance in "One Sided Love," and his remembrance of love that could have been on "Throw It Away." The album also has its brighter moments, such as the frisky title track "Thunderbird" and its story of mischievous young romance, the playful and observational "Girls," Bob's Johnny Cash and June Carter-flavored duet with Marla Kane called "Flames of Love," and the whiskey-soaked love song album-closer "Whiskey Love Thing." Bob also muses about the rigors of aging and the road life on "Little at a Time." Bob sings his songs with a smooth voice and cadence, and he sounds confident and comfortable through it all. Helping flesh out the songs are steel guitar and electric guitar player Forrest Kerstetter, steel guitarist Reggie Duncan, bassist Tim Latshaw, drummer Styx Hooper, and bassist and guitarist Alexander Paul, who also engineered the recording. Produced by Bob and recorded at Double A Productions in Elysburg, Thunderbird captures Bob's traditional country vibe, with his voice front and center in the mix and the various instrumentation providing strong support behind his melodies. It's easy to hear that Bob Randall is in his wheelhouse on Thunderbird, and fans of old-school outlaw country will find this album a strong and rewarding listen. (The album can be obtained through Bob's website, www.bobscountrymusic.com.)

BREE GEARHART – CAMP LIGHTS (no label) Hollidaysburg's Bree Gearhart first surfaced on central PA stages a decade ago as a guitarist and backing singer with the band Rain Must Fall. But as the group eventually separated, Bree emerged as a prolific songwriter and solo artist; releasing seven albums since 2015 plus various EP's and singles, and sharing her music on stages from throughout Pennsylvania to Florida. Her latest album, Camp Lights, shows Bree's obvious gift of songcraft over seven original compositions. Recorded both at her home studio and under camp lights at her camper in Schellsburg, Camp Lights was developed as Bree weathered the storm of the COVID-19 pandemic and its shutdown, and the album's songs follow themes of hope, personal growth, love and matters of the heart. With its layered vocal harmonies, "Cabin on Clark" begins a lyrical journey toward hope and leaving emotional baggage behind. That journey sets into motion on "So Long for This Ride," and Bree resolves to take stock and make the best of rainy days on "Dark Cloud." Going from the isolation of COVID life to the tranquility of being alone in nature, the songs "On Your Sleeve" and "I Just Want You to Know" thoughtfully express the pleasure of personal space while still feeling love and connection. Also thoughtful, "Closer to the Edge" embraces new possibilities while leaving limitations behind. And the album closer "Reasons" realizes that there are methods to life's madness, and time can reveal life's silver linings. Bree's clear, soaring and expressive voice makes these songs shine, and her cadence comfortably works along her crisp and solid acoustic guitar accompaniment. The simplicity of her guitar-and-voice arrangements allows the hearts of these songs to radiate, and her production is clean, full and direct. Camp Lights shows Bree Gearhart's continued growth as a songwriter, singer and artist; and her heartfelt presentation and thoughtful themes make this a rewarding listen. (The album can be purchased through Amazon, and accessed through other online platforms.)

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To place your FREE Classified Note Email to: JoshNoll@pamusician.net. Submit your "Note" along with your phone number and area code...Or fill out the form (one word per space). CLEARLY print your NOTE along with your AREA CODE & PHONE NUMBER. Send it to: PA MUSICIAN MAGAZINE, 178 ANDY STROUP RD. LIVERPOOL, PA 17045

CHECK ONE:

___BUSINESS
$8 for 25 words or less, 30¢ each additional Word.

___EQUIPMENT
FREE first 25 words or less, 10¢ each additional word.

___MUSICIAN WANTED
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___MUSICIAN AVAILABLE
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DEADLINE: 20th of Each Preceding Month!

Pennsylvania Musician reserves the right to REFUSE any ad it deems unsuitable.
ADS RECEIVED WITHOUT PAYMENT WILL NOT BE PRINTED!
ALL Money Making situations are considered Businesses
BAND SCHEDULES & BOOKING INFORMATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS CLASSIFIEDS.

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WANTED: Established working rock band looking for female vocalist. Playing music from the 80's to current radio hits. Dates being booked. Serious Inquiries only. 570- 863-8450

WANTED: Metal band looking for a skilled bassist and second guitar player. Our influences come from Black, Thrash, Melodic, Death and Doom Metal. We currently practice in Dillsburg once a week on Sundays. hit me up to chat and for some examples of our music. Thanks in advance. divinemizery@gmail.com

WANTED: Experienced Acoustic Electric Lead Guitarist With Vocals For Acoustic Duo With Talented Bass Player With Strong Vocals. Rehearse Weekly! Classic Modern Rock. Places Booked. Reading Area. 610-607-3516.

WANTED: Musicians and hula dancers who perform Hawaiian music. Pocono Mountain area. Auditions for Johnny Kai Hawaiian Style Show. For more information Email: Johnnykai@aol.com

MUSICIAN AVAILABLE

AVAILABLE/ WANTED: Guitarist with years of experience and pro gear looking to form band. Covers/originals from classic to indie rock. Lancaster area. Email Steve at sydbarrett927@gmail.com

AVAILABLE: "Seasoned pro drummer seeking gigging band or connected musicians to start one. Prefer popular covers in most genres (but easy-going, flexible)" 973 945 6383

AVAILABLE: Experienced Bass player with good vocals looking for a classic modern rock band, playing out 3-4 times a month. 610-607-3516.

AVAILABLE: Singer/songwriter looking to form or join classic metal band, gear, lighting connections. Hazelton area, Sabbath, Maiden, Priest, anything hard or metal have experience.Call: 570-926-9984

DRUMMER AVAILABLE for live and Studio Professional, many years Experience. rhythmsaint7@gmailc.com 570- 594-8215.

AVAILABLE: Experienced Bass Player looking for classic rock and billboard top 40. Call Roby at 717-668-1543

AVAILABLE: 28 year old drummer looking to join or start a rock band. Text 717-454-8950 or rcoomer27@gamil.com, Lancaster area

AVAILABLE: Mature/Seasoned guitarist for a working/near working situation. Band, trio, duo's. Classic rock/Blues/Oldies etc. CCR, Petty, Beatles, Aerosmith, Skynyrd, Bad Co., Eagles, SRV..etc Professional equipment, reliable, back/vox. E-mail: johnandzach@gmail.com

AVAILABLE: Singer. Tenor. Likes the blues, 90's, Alt, Hard Rock. Looking for a place to grow, write, and create. Mellow hardworking family man. Selinsgrove Area. vonkline@ptd.net

AVAILABLE: Singer looking for a guitarist to play acoustic music 60's to now. Strong Vocals have practice PA and place to jam. If interested call Kevin 717-422-2958

DRUMMER AVAILABLE: Seasoned pro. classic rock, R&B, Funk, dance band. 70s - current. Top equipment modern sound, flexible, pocket player. Joe 717-576-6320.

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MARCH 18 DAVE EAST
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APRIL 6 KNOCKED LOOSE
APRIL 16 FROM ASHES TO NEW
APRIL 23 MALEVOLENT CREATION
MAY 4 WAGE WAR
MAY 15 ORANGE GOBLIN
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